

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 00322 051256Z

40

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 PM-03 L-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 MC-01 ACDA-05 TRSE-00 NIC-01 EB-07 AID-05 /075 W

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R 051215Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9366

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT SU MILI

SUBJ: NIMEIRI ADDRESSES ARMY COMMANDERS

REF: KHARTOUM 248 (NOTAL)

1. ON HEELS RECENT MAJOR GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION
(KHARTOUM 248), PRESIDENT NIMEIRI ADDRESSED ANNUAL ARMED
FORCES COMMANDERS CONFERENCE IN KHARTOUM FEBRUARY 4.
ACCORDING SUDAN NEWS AGENCY RELEASE, NIMEIRI
SAID HE WAS ALIVE TO EQUIPMENT SHORTAGES WHICH ARMED
FORCES HAVE FACED, AS WELL AS TO THEIR SUPPLY AND TRAIN-
ING PROBLEMS, AND ANNOUNCED THAT AGREEMENTS HAD BEEN
REACHED "WITH SOME SISTER AND FRIENDLY COUNTRIES" ON
THE PROVISION OF EQUIPMENT IN SHORT SUPPLY. NIMEIRI
CONCLUDED BY ANNOUNCING THAT HE PLANNED REMAIN A
SERVING ARMY OFFICER, MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF AS LONG AS HE CONTINUES LEAD

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THE SUDANESE PEOPLE.

2. COMMENT: NIMEIRI'S REMARKS SUGGEST THERE MAY
HAVE BEEN SOME RECENT ARMS DEALS WITH SEVERAL
ARAB AND NON-ARAB COUNTRIES IN ADDITION IRANIAN PATROL BOATS
(KHARTOUM 155 NOTAL). WE NOTE IN THIS CONNECTION
THAT ROMANIAN CHIEF-OF-STAFF HAS JUST COMPLETED
OFFICIAL VISIT HERE DURING WHICH HE HAD TALKS WITH HIS
SUDANESE COUNTERPART. NIMEIRI'S REAFFIRMATION
OF HIS INTENTION TO REMAIN DEFENSE MINISTER
AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST IN LIGHT
UNCONFIRMED RUMOR THAT SOME OF NEWLY APPOINTED MINISTERS
WHO ARE POWERFUL IN SSU MAY ENTERTAIN SOME HOPE TO
"ISOLATE" NIMEIRI BY INDUCING HIM APPOINT ANOTHER MINISTER
OF DEFENSE.

BREWER

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Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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